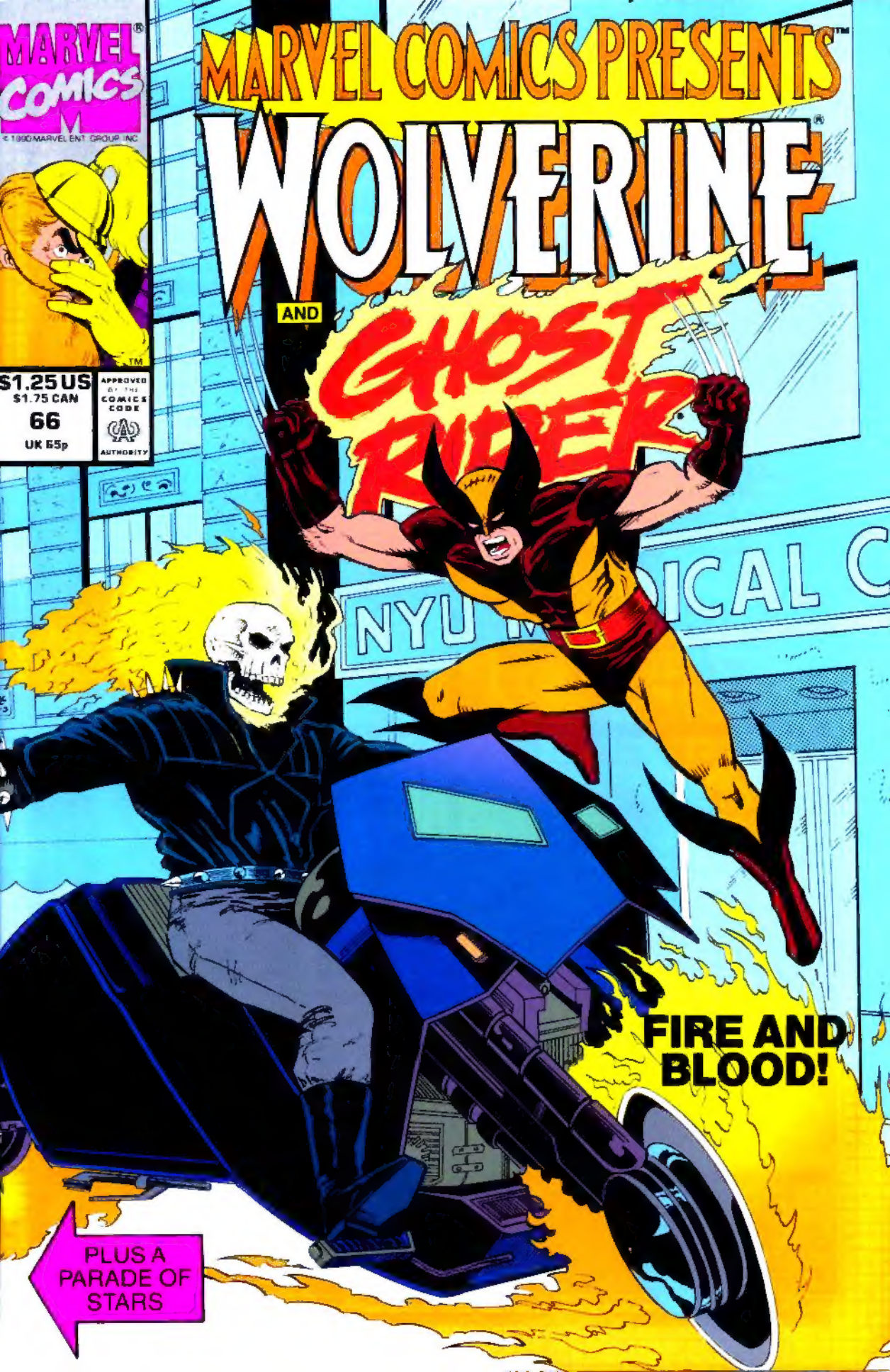
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WOLVERINE®
AND
GHOST RIDER
NYU
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FIRE AND BLOOD!
PLUS A PARADE OF STARS

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS

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Page

WOLVERINE AND GHOST RIDER 1

Acts of Vengeance
Part 3 of 8

"DANCING IN THE DARK"

Wolverine and Ghost Rider have been brought face to face at a martial arts school in Brooklyn. Here they learn they share a common enemy in Deathwatch with Watanabe and his mysterious son.

Writer — HOWARD MACKIE
Penciler — MARK TEXEIRA
Inker — HARRY CANDELARIO
Letterer — CLEM ROBINS
Colorist — GREGORY WRIGHT

Page

POISON 9

Vandals of the Heart
Part 7 of 8

"FOOLS RUSH IN"

Myrna—or rather the ethereal entity, Mrinhä—has abandoned its hiding place in Joe's mop and taken up residence in Joe's own body, setting Poison, Joe, and the Slug on a violent collision course.

Writer — STEVE GERBER
Art — CINDY MARTIN
Letterer — TIM HARKINS
Colorist — CHRIS IVY

Page

FANTASTIC FOUR 17

Deadly Dimensions
Part 3 of 5

"THE THING'S IN THE BASEMENT"

Strange things have been happening ever since Reed turned on his molecular regenerator. Unaware of the ordeals faced by his companions, Ben Grimm, the Thing, stands watch at Fantastic Four Headquarters.

Writer — ROBERT DENATALE
Penciler — TOM MORGAN
Inker — TIM DZON
Letterer — CHRIS ELIOPOULOS
Colorist — RENÉE WITTERSTAETTER

Page

VOLSTAGG 25

"THE THIEF OF ASGARD"

Who is the greatest warrior in all of Asgard? Who has proven his valor and mettle in battle after battle? Well, okay, you're right, but Thor's not *in* this story. *This* story's about that self-proclaimed Lion of Asgard—the voluminous Volstagg!

Writer — SHOLLY FISCH
Art — SAM GRAINGER
Letterer — JANICE CHIANG
Colorist — BRAD VANCATA

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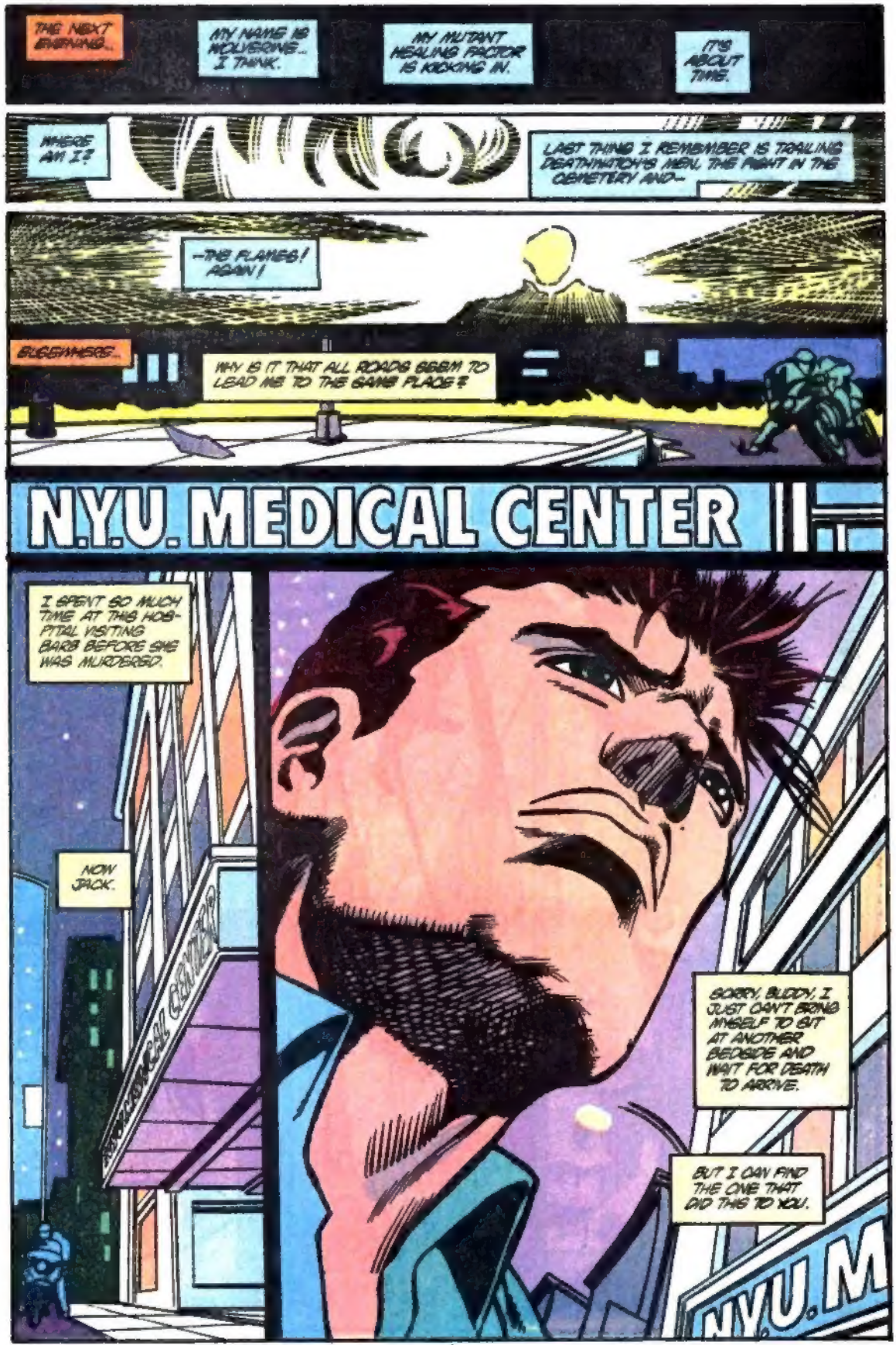
ACTS OF VENGEANCE PART 3

DANCING IN THE DARK

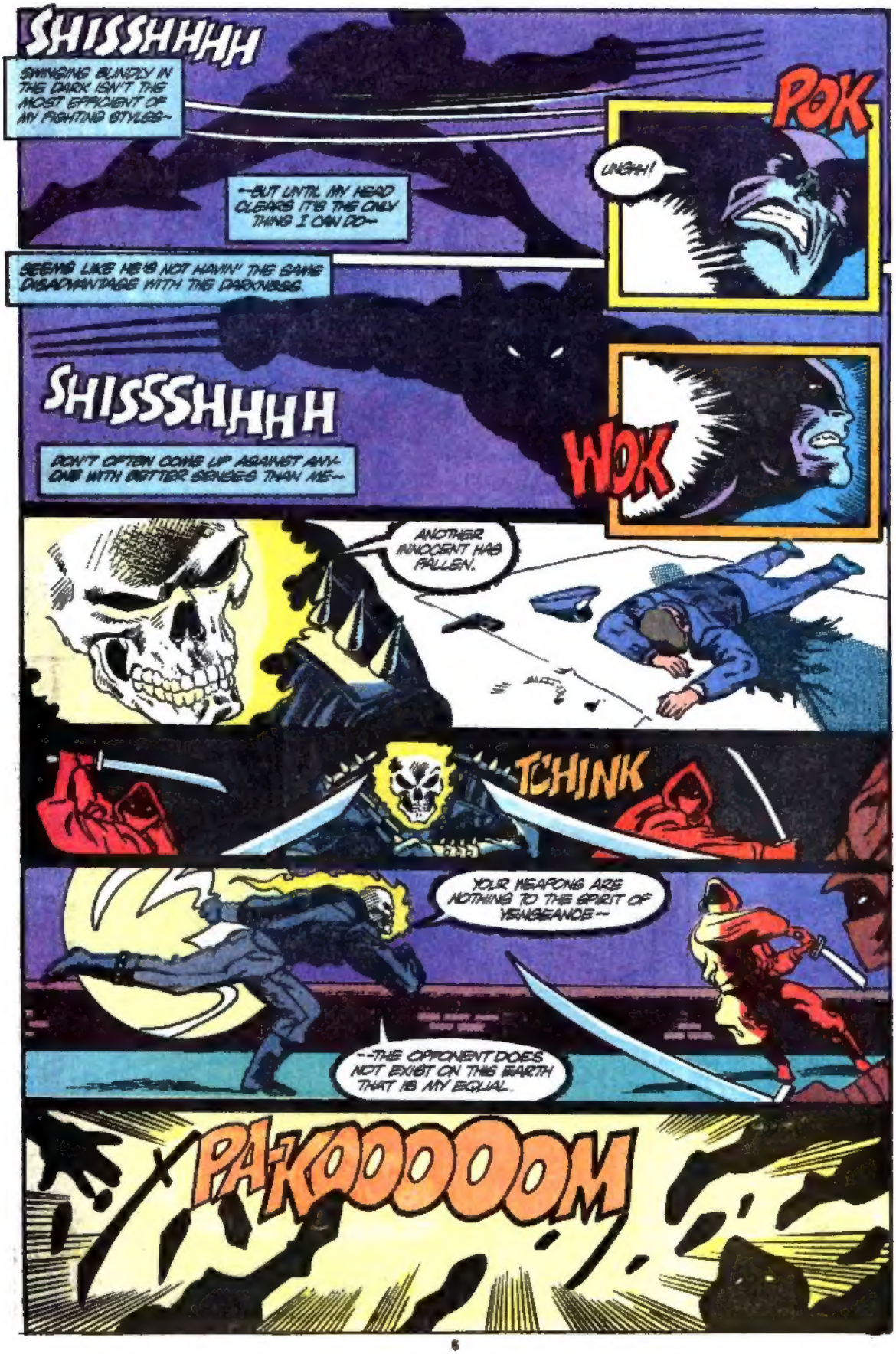
FEATURING: WOLVERINE & GHOST RIDER

THIS ONE'S PULSE IS STRONG--BUT IT'S STARTING TO RACE AT AN INCREDIBLE RATE.
I AM GLAD TO SEE THAT YOU ARE SAFE, MY CHILDREN.
EMMALINE AND I CAN HANDLE THE SITUATION HERE, SON—
—GO AND MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO MORE ASSASSINS LURKING ABOUT.
YES, FATHER
WILL THEY LIVE?
I THINK I CAN HELP THE CLAWED ONE IF WE GET HIM BACK HOME QUICKLY.
BUT THE DEMON--I JUST DON'T KNOW--I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO BEGIN.
THE CLAWS...
...METAL...SUCH PAIN...MY PAIN!
RRROOOOMM
NEED REST.
IT APPEARS OUR HELP IS NOT NEEDED.


THE NEXT EVENING...
MY NAME IS WOLVERINE... I THINK.
MY MUTANT HEALING FACTOR IS KICKING IN.
IT'S ABOUT TIME.
WHERE AM I?
LAST THING I REMEMBER IS TRAILING DEATHWATCH'S MEN, THE FIGHT IN THE CEMETERY AND--
--THE FLAMES! AGAIN!
BUGGERMERE...
WHY IS IT THAT ALL ROADS SEEM TO LEAD ME TO THE SAME PLACE?
N.Y.U. MEDICAL CENTER
I SPENT SO MUCH TIME AT THIS HOSPITAL VISITING BARB BEFORE SHE WAS MURDERED.
NOW JACK.
SORRY, BUDDY, I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO SIT AT ANOTHER BEDSIDE AND WAIT FOR DEATH TO ARRIVE.
BUT I CAN FIND THE ONE THAT DID THIS TO YOU.
N.Y.U. M

SNIKT
DON'T KNOW HOW OR WHY THE LAST FIGHT ENDED--
--BUT I KNOW HOW THIS ONE'S GOING TO END.
KEESH
I.V. SLOWED ME DOWN.
PUMPED FULL OF DRUGS.
EVERYTHING'S STILL HAZY.
DOESN'T MATTER SINCE I TOOK CARE OF THE ONLY LIGHT IN THE ROOM.
OKAY, BUDDY. LET'S SEE WHO HANDLES HIMSELF BETTER IN THE DARK.
THE GAS CAP?
OH...
DEATHWATCH'S MEN STILL AFTER JACK.
WHY?

THIS GUY IS GOOD... WHATEVER HE IS...
DEFINITELY A PRO.
HE'S DISGUISED HIS SCENT TO BLEND IN WITH THE ROOM.
AND I CAN BARELY HEAR HIM BREATHING--
--BARELY!
--VENGEANCE--
--WILL BE--
--MINE!
YEAAH!

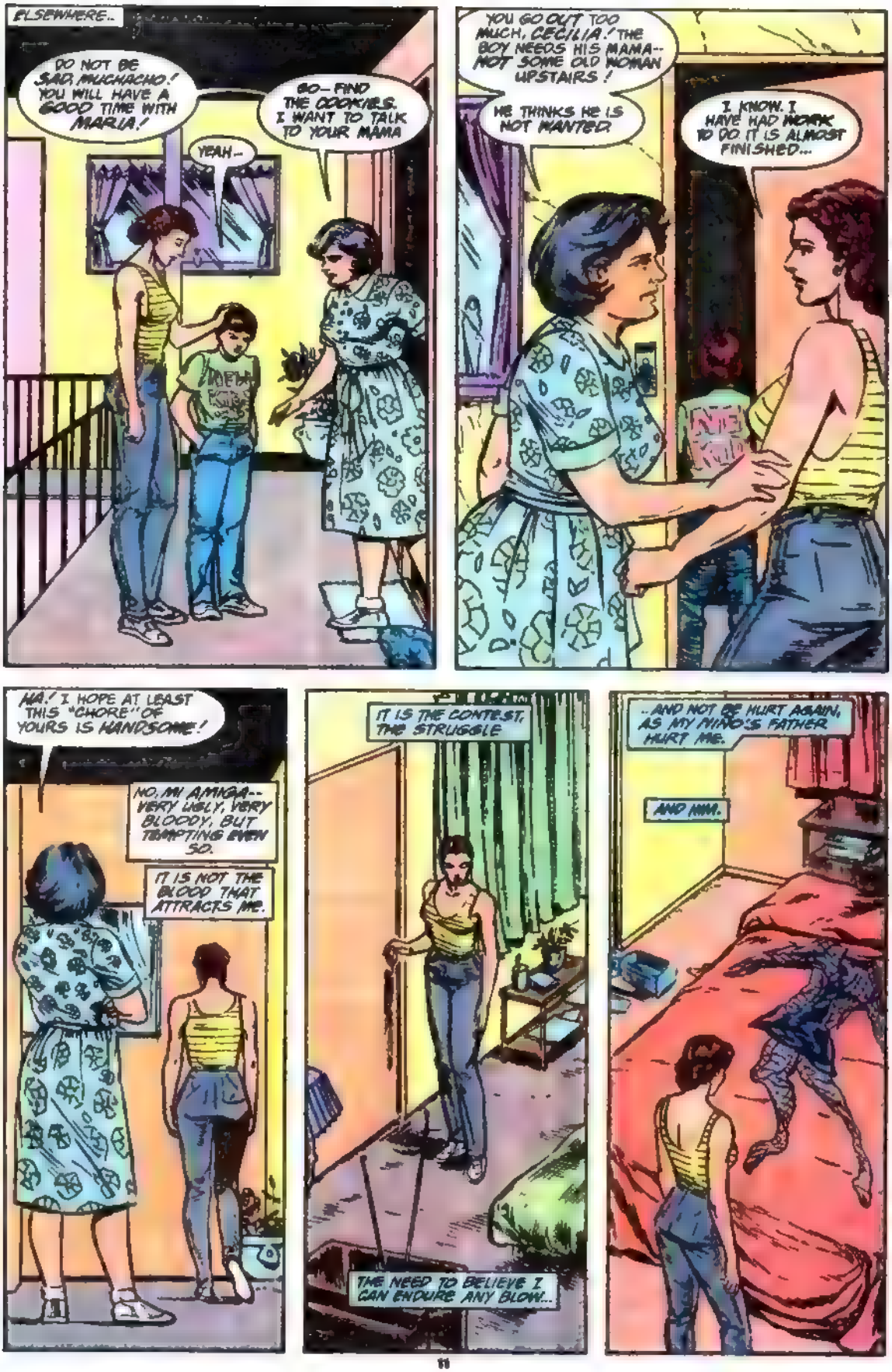

SHISSHHHH
SWINGING BLINDLY IN THE DARK ISN'T THE MOST EFFICIENT OF ANY FIGHTING STYLES--
--BUT UNTIL MY HEAD CLEARS IT'S THE ONLY THING I CAN DO--
POK
UNGHH!
SEEMS LIKE HE'S NOT HAVIN' THE SAME DISADVANTAGE WITH THE DARKNESS.
SHISSSHHHH
DON'T OFTEN COME UP AGAINST ANYONE WITH BETTER SENSES THAN ME--
WOK
ANOTHER INNOCENT HAS FALLEN.
TCHINK
YOUR WEAPONS ARE NOTHING TO THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE--
--THE OPPONENT DOES NOT EXIST ON THIS EARTH THAT IS MY EQUAL.
PA-KOOOOOM

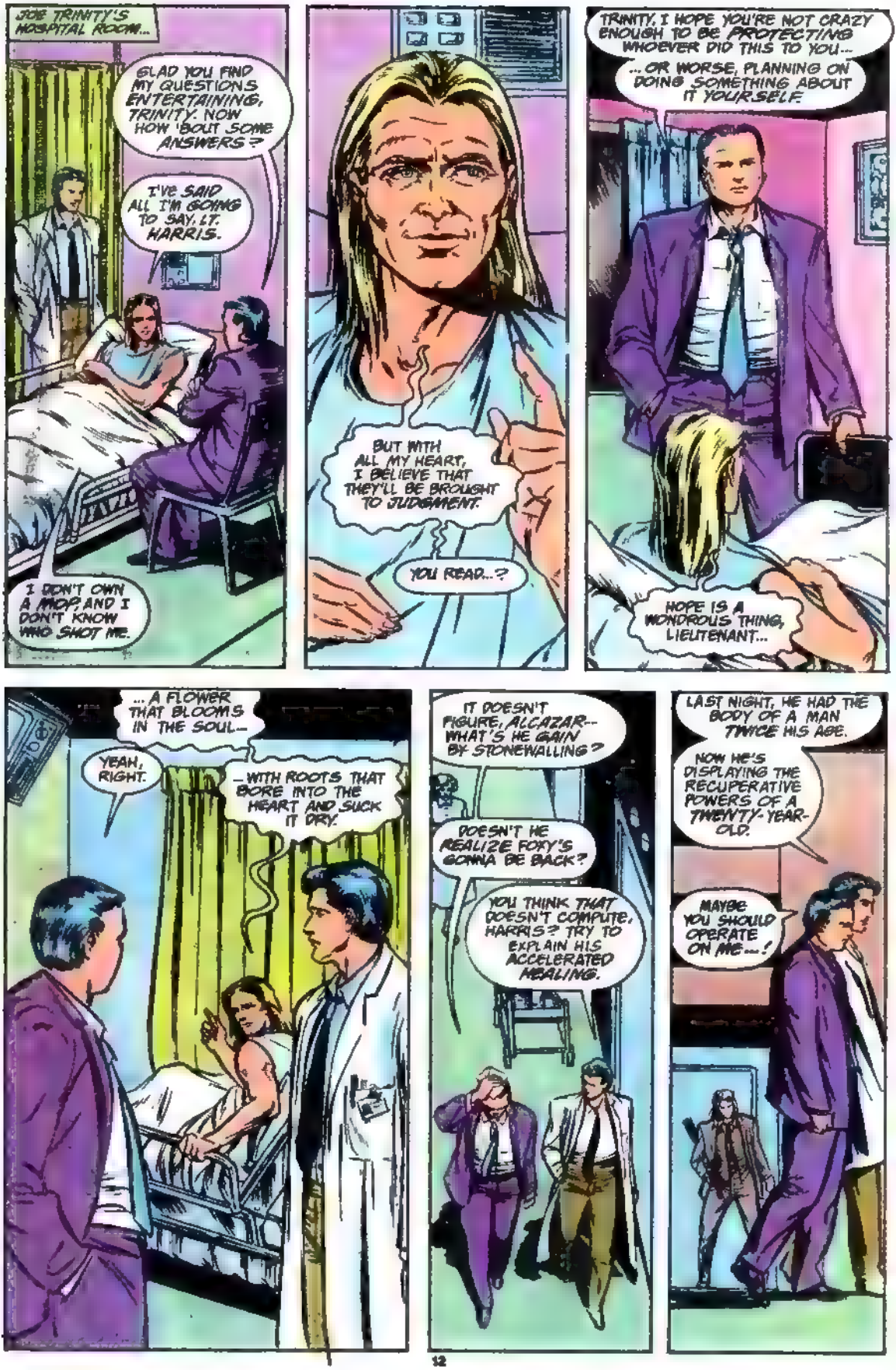
SHWIK
BINGO! DREW BLOOD!
I CAN LATCH ON TO THAT SMELL AND PIN HIM DOWN.
SHING
THAT'S IT!
COME TO POPPA!
NO! SEAN!
SPEAK.
THE ONE WHO SENT YOU -DEATHWATCH- WHAT DOES HE WANT WITH THE BOY?
YOU MUST FEEL THE PAIN.
NO!

THE LIGHTS?
THUM
KRISH
MR. WOLVERINE, WE MUST TALK!
I DID NOT THINK YOU WERE A KILLER, MY DEMONIC FRIEND!
TCHINK
IT IS TIME FOR US TO TALK!
TO BE CONTINUED...

"IN MY OPINION, SLUG, NO CONVENTIONAL WEAPON COULD INFLICT WOUNDS OF THIS NATURE"
"THE DAMAGE DONE TO PERTIERRA COULD NOT HAVE BEEN YOUR COMPETITORS' WORK."
"I'M PLEASED TO HEAR THAT, DR KRISLOV. WHERE IS HE NOW?"
"ONCE I'D BANDAGED HIM UP-- HE LEFT. I WARNED HIM THAT IT WAS DANGEROUS, BUT--"
"YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT MOTIVATES A MAN LIKE PERTIERRA, DOCTOR."
--YOUR FAULT, SALLY!
"HE DOESN'T TAKE ADVICE. HE OPERATES ENTIRELY ON INSTINCT--
VANDALS OF THE HEART!
CHAPTER 7
FOLS Rush In
FEATURING:
POISON
"--KILLER INSTINCT."
ALL YOU'VE GIVEN ME IS MONEY, DALLAS...
IF YOU'D STOPPED ANSWERING HIS PHONE CALLS.. SHOW'N ANY RESPECT FOR WHAT I'VE GIVEN YOU--
...AND A THOUSAND REASONS TO HATE YOU--!
KERR--!

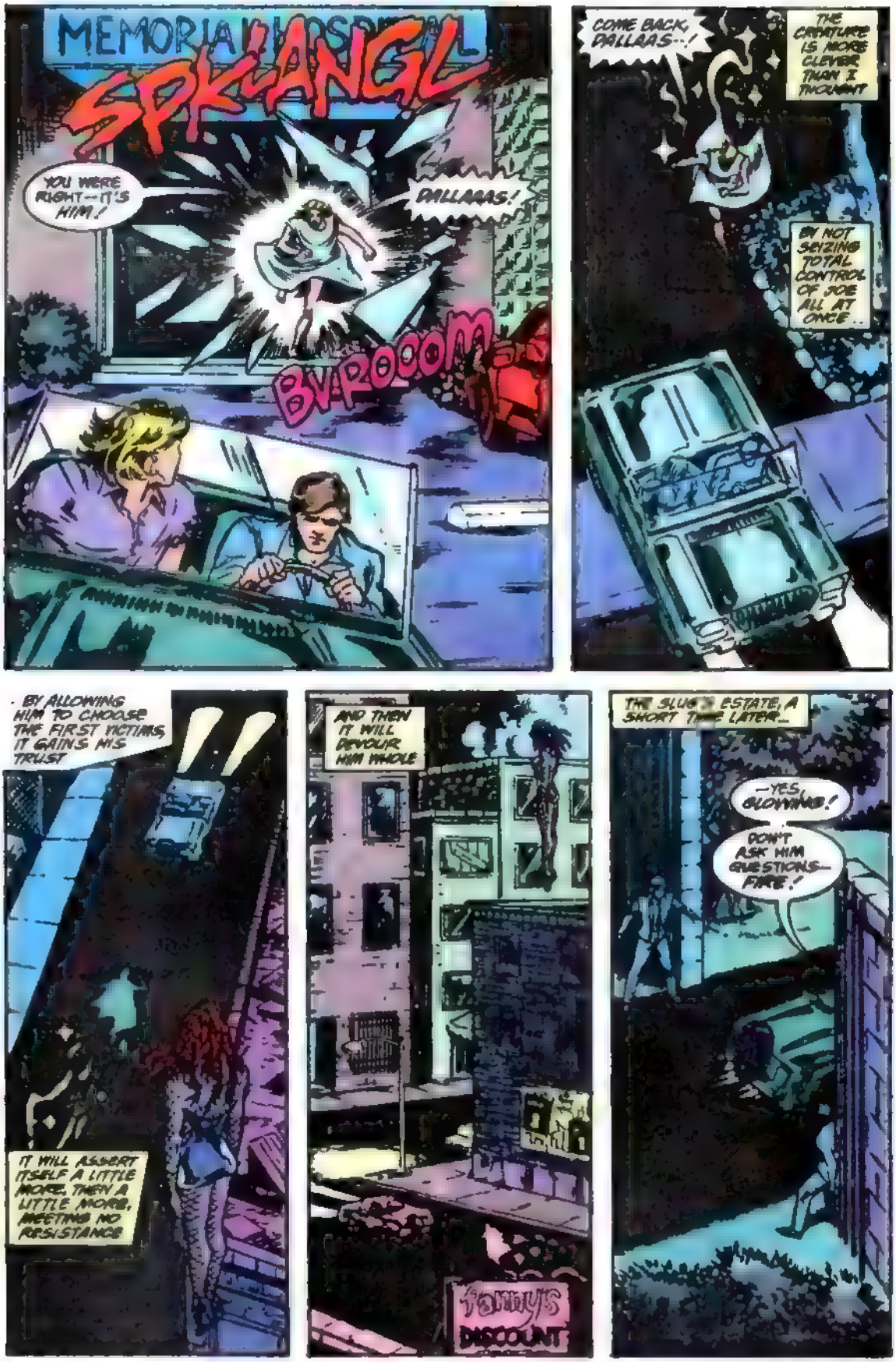
YOU WANNA SPEND YOUR TIME FIGHTIN' WITH A WOMAN--FINE.
YOU WANNA HELP BLOW TRINITY'S HEAD OFF--COME WITH ME.
I THOUGHT LUKEMAN STUCK ME WITH THIS--
NOTHIN' TO DO WITH THE SLUG. I GOT MY OWN BEEF WITH THE MOP MAN.
LUCKY FOR YOU, HUH?
I'M GOING WITH HIM.
YOU UNDERSTAND--THERE'LL BE NO MERCY THIS TIME.
OOOH... HOW MACHO.
MAYBE I'LL GET LUCKY, AND HE'LL KILL YOU, TOO.
SHORTLY...
CAN'T LET 'ER TALK TO YOU LIKE THAT, KERR--SHOULD'A CAVED 'ER FACE IN.
YOU DRIVE... LEFT TURNS ARE A PAIN ONE-HANDED.
DID JOE DO THIS TO YOU...?
BUMPS AN' BRUISES COME WITH THE TERRITORY. NO BIG DEAL...
...LONG AS THE OTHER GUY'S DEADDER THAN ME.
THAT'S WHAT I GOTTA FIX WITH TRINITY.


ELSEWHERE..
DO NOT BE SAD, MUCHACHO! YOU WILL HAVE A GOOD TIME WITH MARIA!
YEAH--
GO-- FIND THE COOKIES. I WANT TO TALK TO YOUR MAMA
YOU GO OUT TOO MUCH, CECILIA! THE BOY NEEDS HIS MAMA-- NOT SOME OLD WOMAN UPSTAIRS!
HE THINKS HE IS NOT WANTED
I KNOW. I HAVE HAD WORK TO DO. IT IS ALMOST FINISHED...
MA! I HOPE AT LEAST THIS "CHORE" OF YOURS IS HANDSOME!
NO, MI AMIGA-- VERY UGLY, VERY BLOODY, BUT TEMPTING EVEN SO.
IT IS NOT THE BLOOD THAT ATTRACTS ME.
IT IS THE CONTEST, THE STRUGGLE
THE NEED TO BELIEVE I CAN ENDURE ANY BLOW...
..AND NOT BE HURT AGAIN, AS MY NINO'S FATHER HURT ME.
AND MA.


JOE TRINITY'S HOSPITAL ROOM...
GLAD YOU FIND MY QUESTIONS ENTERTAINING, TRINITY. NOW HOW 'BOUT SOME ANSWERS?
I'VE SAID ALL I'M GOING TO SAY, LT. HARRIS.
I DON'T OWN A MOP, AND I DON'T KNOW WHO SHOT ME.
BUT WITH ALL MY HEART, I BELIEVE THAT THEY'LL BE BROUGHT TO JUDGMENT.
YOU READ...?
TRINITY, I HOPE YOU'RE NOT CRAZY ENOUGH TO BE PROTECTING WHOEVER DID THIS TO YOU...
...OR WORSE, PLANNING ON DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT YOURSELF.
HOPE IS A WONDROUS THING, LIEUTENANT...
...A FLOWER THAT BLOOMS IN THE SOUL--
YEAH, RIGHT.
--WITH ROOTS THAT BORE INTO THE HEART AND SUCK IT DRY.
IT DOESN'T FIGURE, ALCAZAR-- WHAT'S HE GAIN BY STONEWALLING?
DOESN'T HE REALIZE FOXY'S GONNA BE BACK?
YOU THINK THAT DOESN'T COMPUTE, HARRIS? TRY TO EXPLAIN HIS ACCELERATED HEALING.
LAST NIGHT, HE HAD THE BODY OF A MAN TWICE HIS AGE.
NOW HE'S DISPLAYING THE RECUPERATIVE POWERS OF A TWENTY-YEAR-OLD.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD OPERATE ON ME...!

I WISH I COULD TAKE THE CREDIT...
THAT'S IT TALK THE TALK, AN' WALK THE WALK OUTTA HERE...
HEY, JOE...
...G'BYE AGAIN!
BRRREBRREP
WHAT THE DEVIL--?
DON'T MOVE!
THAT'S AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE--!
EHHRAAHLNGH
holy mother of mercy...!
TRINI--
FWLITT
:DNPHF:

YUHNGHGAAG
YOU THINK TOO LOUD, ROXY!
MY MRINHÃ HEARD YOU COMING FOR PMS.!
GEOOWDADAWAH
KRASHNTHUD
AAAH-- PRESWARS!
I WANTED A FEW MORE PIECES OF Y-- HUH?
BLAMP
NO! REALLY...?!
MRINHÃ, HONEY, THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU!
KUHURRR-!
NO... OH, PLEASE, NO...!
SLUHH... GO TO... SLUHHG'S... OUH--GO--!


MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
SPKLANGL
YOU WERE RIGHT—IT'S HIM!
DALLAAAS!
BV-ROOOM
COME BACK, DALLAAS—!
THE CREATURE IS MORE CLEVER THAN I THOUGHT
BY NOT SEIZING TOTAL CONTROL OF JOE ALL AT ONCE..
BY ALLOWING HIM TO CHOOSE THE FIRST VICTIMS, IT GAINS HIS TRUST
IT WILL ASSERT ITSELF A LITTLE MORE. THEN A LITTLE MORE, MEETING NO RESISTANCE
AND THEN IT WILL DEVOUR HIM WHOLE
Tommy's DISCOUNT
THE SLUG ESTATE, A SHORT TIME LATER...
—YES, GLOWING!
DON'T ASK HIM QUESTIONS—FIRE!

I'M HEEERE, DALLAS!
GOTTA BE THE GUY, RIGHT...?
BRATTA BRATTA BRATTA
WE ARE QUITE IMPERVIOUS TO WEAPONS.
PATHETIC, AIN'T THEY...?
PPF
TUP
FPF
WE'RE AIMIN' RIGHT AT THE HEART O' THE PROBLEM, MRINHA... YOU READ?
YEAH? TOP-NOTCH!
I WILL BREAK THE VANDALS WHO SWARM AROUND YOU AND INSIDE YOU, JOE TRINITY
I WILL TRAMPLE THEIR SPIRITS AS THEY DID YOURS.
THEY HAVE TAKEN FROM YOU ALL THEY CAN--NOW LET THEM TAKE POISON
CONCLUDES NEXT ISSUE...

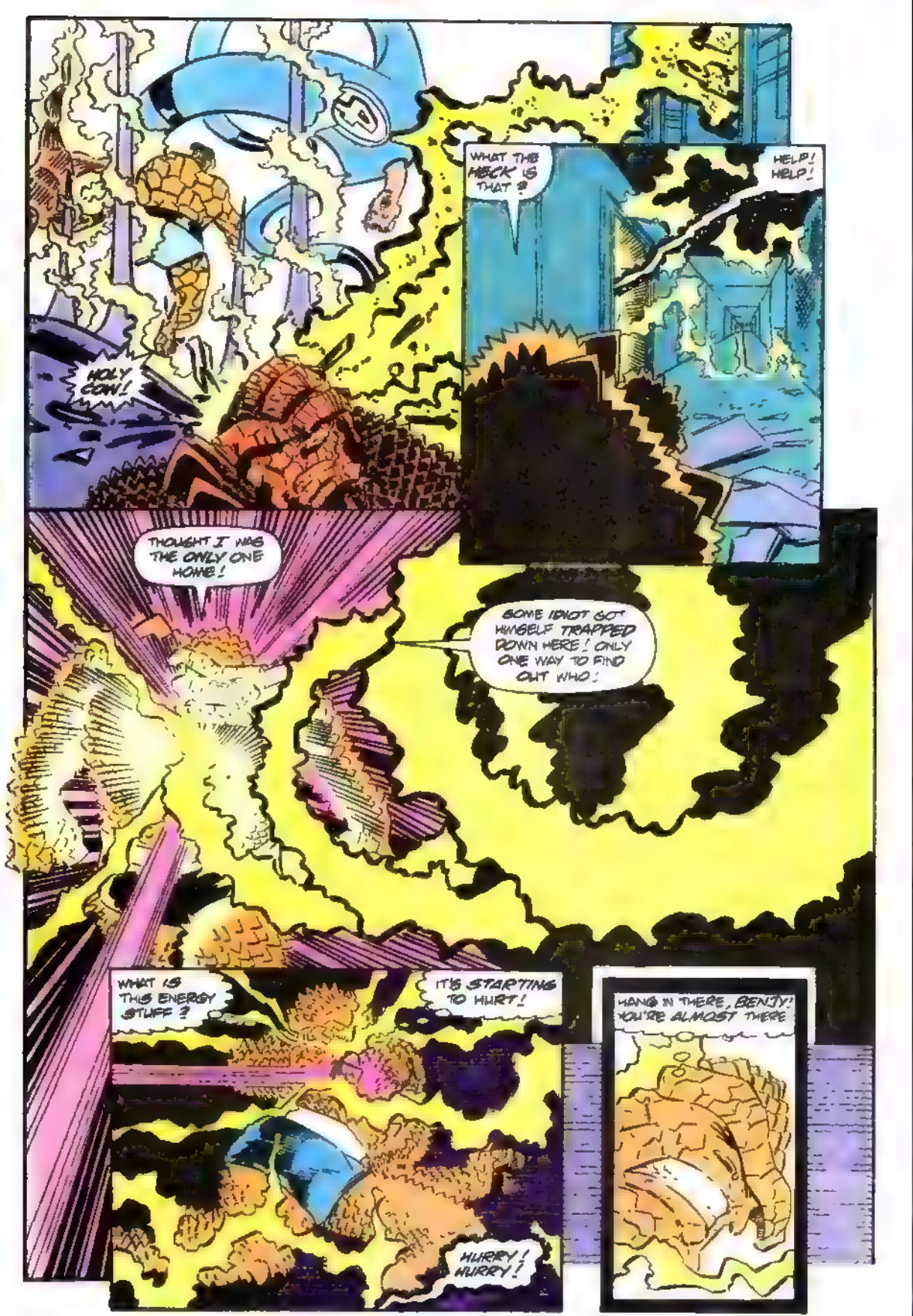
DEADLY DIMENSIONS
PART 3
FEATURING:
Fantastic Four
SPOTLIGHTING:
THING
THE THING'S IN THE BASEMENT
HKLHKLHKL
ZZZZZZZZ
HKLHKL
ZZZZZZZZ

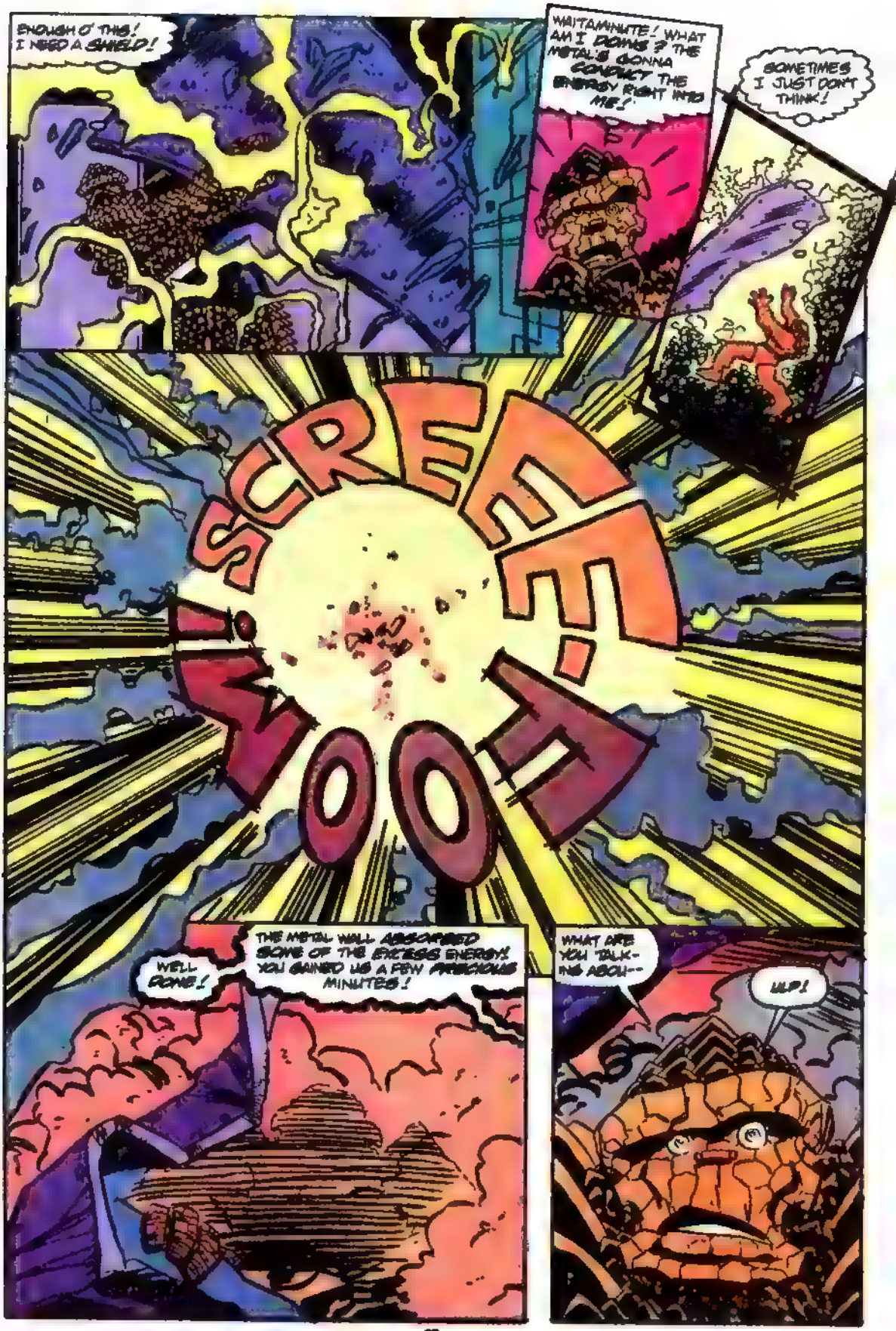
WHA--
KA-BOOM
MMMM...!
BEN! BEN! COME IN!
WHO--?
LISTEN, BEN! SUE'S BEN THE VICTIM OF A BIZARRE ATTACK!
REED?
REMEMBER THOSE OLD ANDROIDS IN THE BASEMENT-- THE ONES THE MAD THINKER CREATED? I THINK THEY MAY HAVE BEEN RE-ACTIVATED!
ANDROIDS?
BEN! WHAT HAPPENED?
ANDROIDS? YOU MEAN THOSE TWO-BIT REPLICAS OF US WE THREW INTO COLD STORAGE?
OH, THAT
THE ROOM'S A SHAMBLES, BEN! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
I'M NOT SURE. I THINK THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION RIGHT BEFORE YOU CALLED.

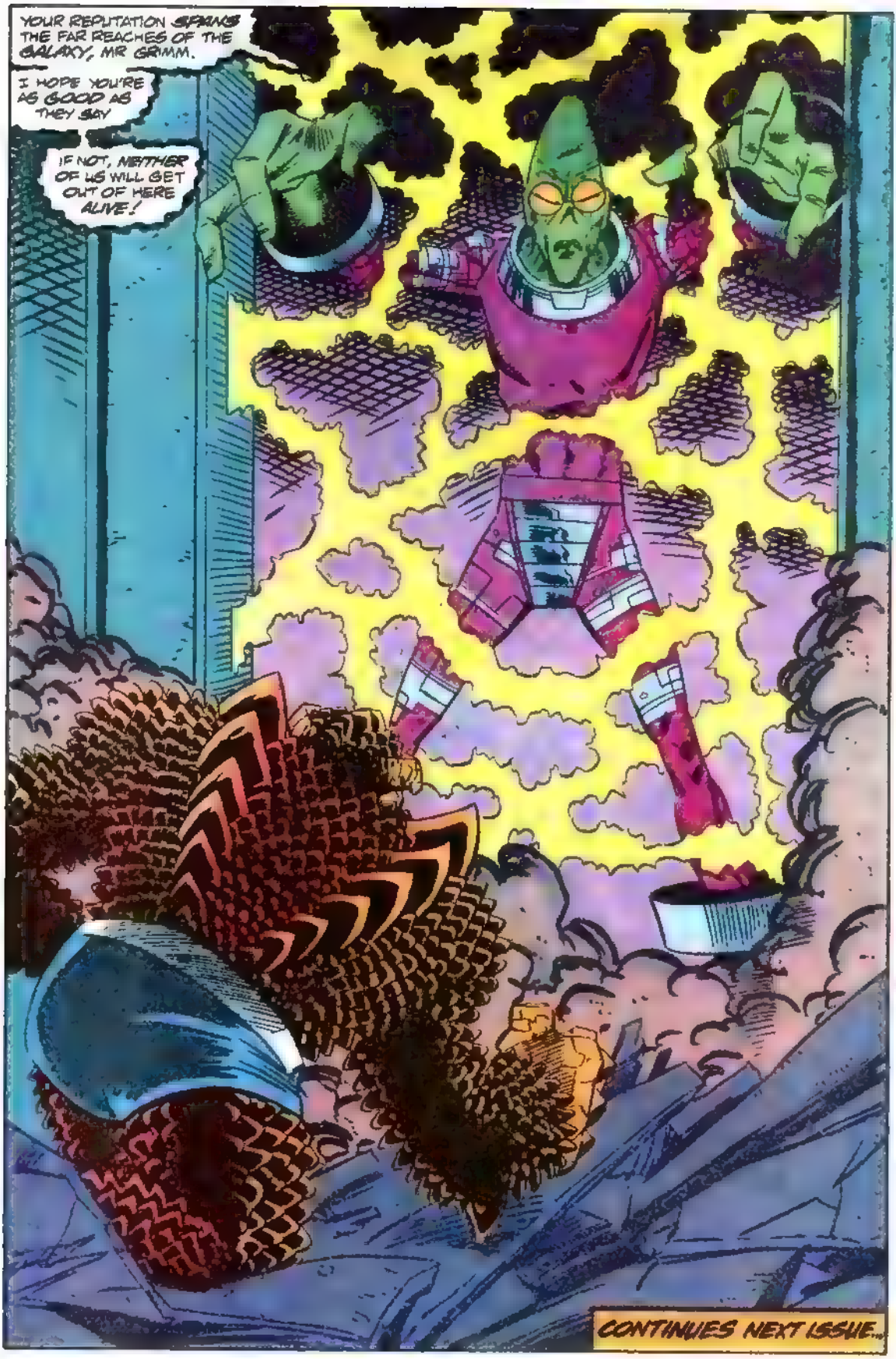
BRANGARBONGBONGA
AAAAAHH!
BEN! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT ALARM MEANS?
LEMME GUESS... DINNER'S READY?
BEN, THIS IS SERIOUS! CHECK THE METER ON THE CONSOLE TO YOUR RIGHT! IS IT IN THE RED?
YEAH... IT'S TOUCHING.
LANGALANGALANG
THAT METER REGISTERS A RIFT IN SUBSPACE! YOU'VE GOT TO GET TO THE TIME/SPACE ROOM FAST! IF IT'S WHAT I FEAR--
AW, REED! I DON'T KNOW NOTHIN' ABOUT SUBSPACE!
LANGALANGALA
DON'T WORRY! I'LL TALK YOU THR--
NGAL BOOM
REED! REED! I DON'T BELIEVE THIS! THE BLAMED COMMUNICATION LINE'S GONE DEAD!

OKAY, YOU BLUE-EYED BEAUTY, YER ON YER OWN!
LEVEL 2
WE...LL, HERE WE ARE -- THE DOOR TO SUBSPACE, ONE O' REED'S FAVORITE TOYS!
EVERYTHING LOOKS NORMAL.
BLACK AS DOC DOOM'S SOUL IN THERE CAN'T SEE A THING.
TOOM
ALL THE POWER'S OFF, TOO -- WHAT AM I AM SUPPOSED TO BE DOING?!
REED'S GOT ME ALL FLUSTERED! LET ME THINK ABOUT THIS...
MAYBE THIS AIN'T WHERE THE PROBLEM IS..
MAYBE THE ALARM WENT OFF CAUSE OF SUBSPACE TROUBLE SOME-PLACE ELSE...
MAYBE I OUGHTA CHECK UP ON THOSE ANDROIDS!

NOW I JUST GOTTA REMEMBER WHERE WE PUT 'EM!
SHEESH! HOW MANY FREAKIN' BASEMENTS DO WE GOT IN HERE?
OH...
BOOM
NO
..NOT
..AGAIN!
WHAM
AW, ...
...NOW I GOT IT! I'M ST... SLEEPING!


HOLY COW!
WHAT THE HECK IS THAT?
HELP! HELP!
THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY ONE HOME!
SOME IDIOT GOT HIMSELF TRAPPED DOWN HERE! ONLY ONE WAY TO FIND OUT WHO!
WHAT IS THIS ENERGY STUFF?
IT'S STARTING TO HURT!
HURRY! HURRY!
HANG IN THERE, BENJY! YOU'RE ALMOST THERE


ENOUGH O' THIS! I NEED A SHIELD!
WAITAMINUTE! WHAT AM I DOING? THE METAL'S GONNA CONDUCT THE ENERGY RIGHT INTO ME!
SOMETIMES I JUST DON'T THINK!
SURE!
WOOM
WELL DONE!
THE METAL WILL ABSORB SOME OF THE EXCESS ENERGY! YOU GAINED US A FEW PRECIOUS MINUTES!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOU--
ULP!

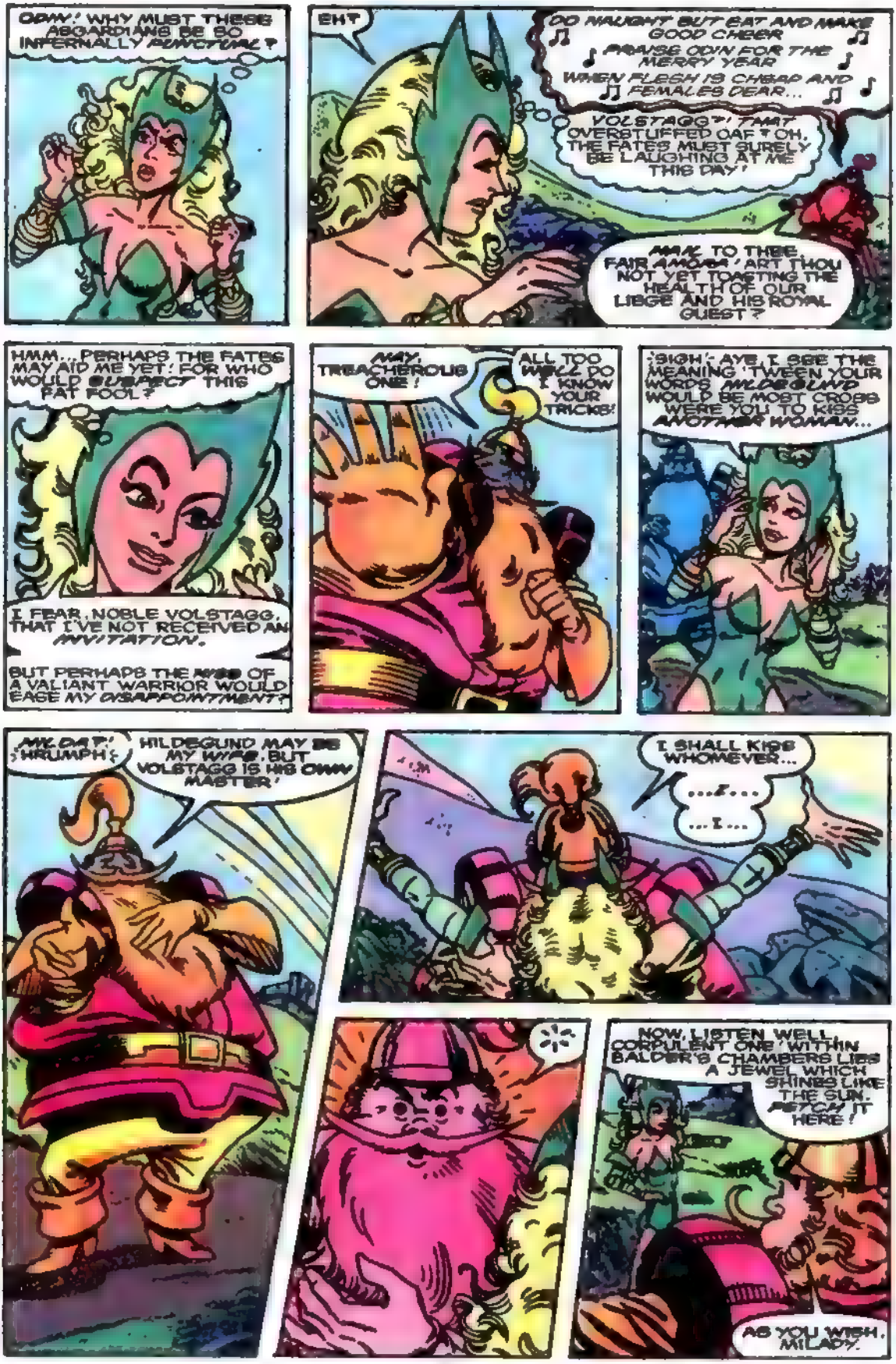

YOUR REPUTATION SPANS THE FAR REACHES OF THE GALAXY, MR GRIMM.
I HOPE YOU'RE AS GOOD AS THEY SAY
IF NOT, NEITHER OF US WILL GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE!
CONTINUES NEXT ISSUE...

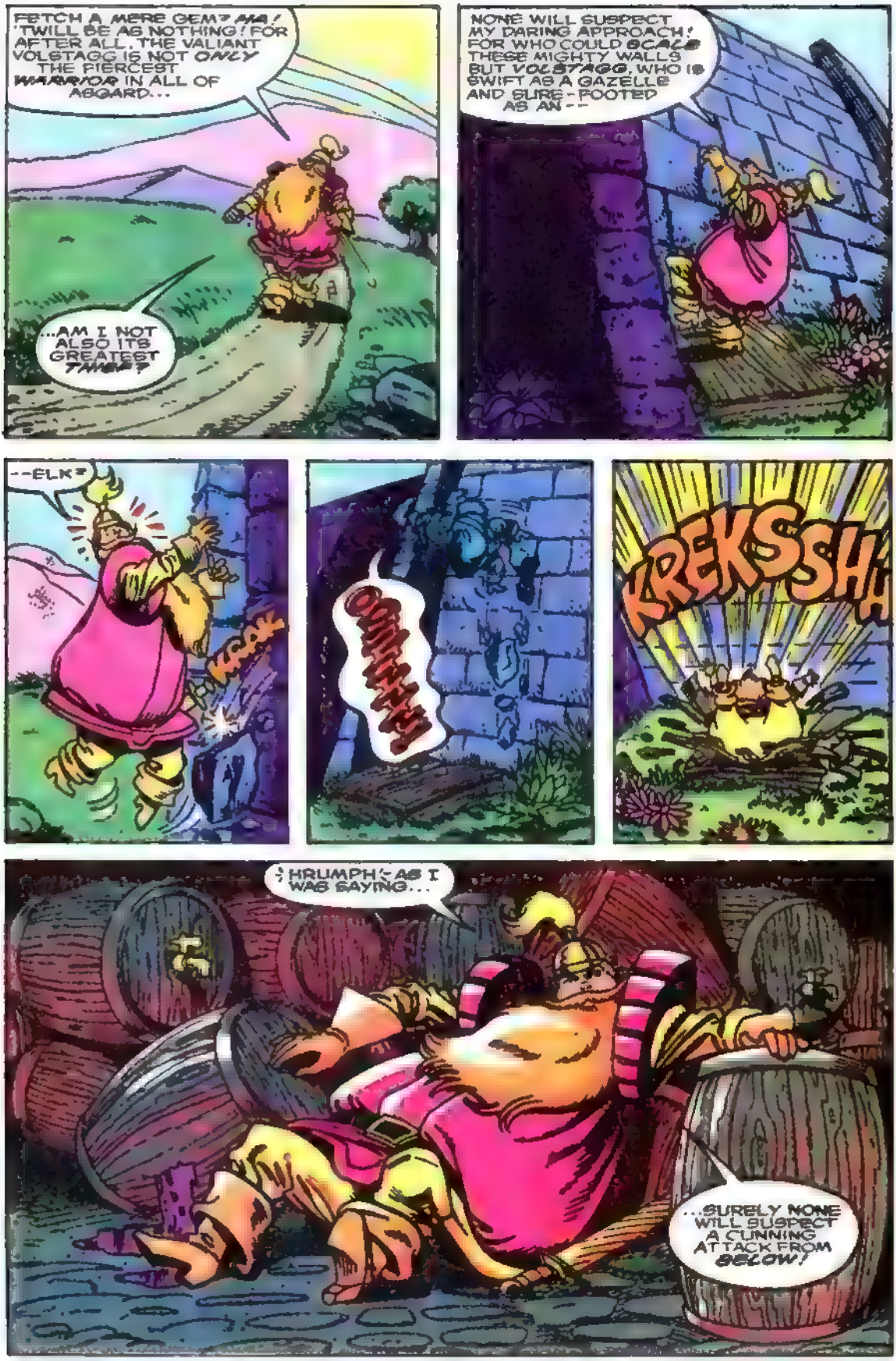
'Twas in the days before the Egyptian Wars had come to Asgard, when noble Balder ruled the shining land...
...and the halls of the Enchantress were filled with thoughts of darkest malice.
Volstagg
THE NERVE OF BALDER-- FORBIDDING ME ENTRY TO HIS RECEPTION FOR THE QUEEN OF THE NORNS! AND JUST BECAUSE I TURNED HER INTO A NEWT THE LAST TIME!
Oh, pooh.
A GIFT, LORD BALDER! A SYMBOL OF THE BOND 'TWIXT OUR TWO REALMS-- AND 'TWIXT ME AND THEE.
SHE GOT BETTER, DIDN'T SHE?
THE THIEF OF ASGARD

TRULY THE LIGHT SHED BY THIS JEWEL IS MATCHED ONLY BY YOUR BEAUTY, MY LADY
I SHALL HAVE IT BROUGHT TO MY CHAMBERS AT ONCE, LEST SOME HARM BEFALL IT.

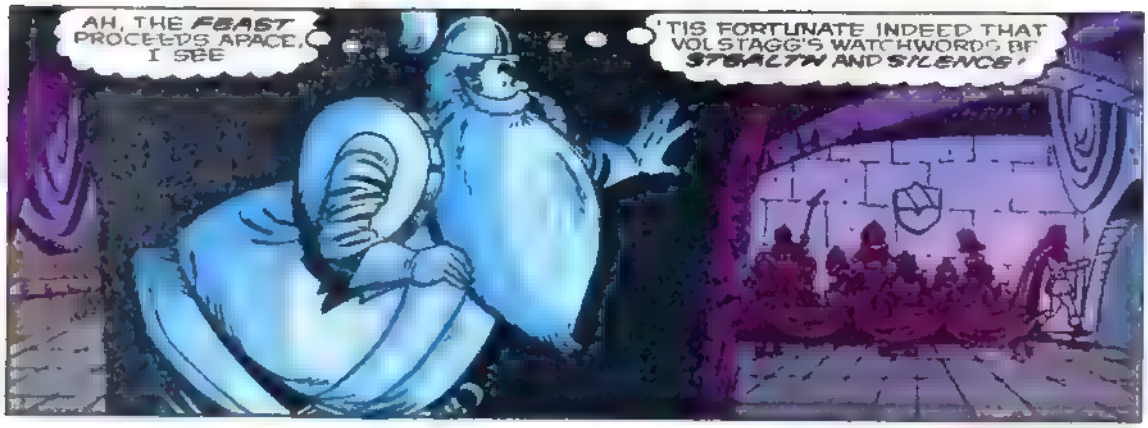
AHA! THAT GEM SHALL PROVIDE MY REVENGE!
'TWILL BE CHILD'S PLAY TO ENCHANT SOME POOR FOOL INTO STEALING IT FOR ME! BALDER WILL NEVER AGAIN DARE TO SLIGHT THE ENCHANTRESS!

A SIMPLE SPELL TRANSPORTS ME TO BALDER'S CASTLE, WHERE I MAY AWAIT SOME LATECOMER TO THE FESTIVITIES!
SURELY, ONE SHALL APPROACH AT ANY MOMENT.
AYE, AYE, ANY MOMENT


ODIN! WHY MUST THESE ASGARDIANS BE SO INFERNALLY PUNCTUAL?
EH?
DO NAUGHT BUT EAT AND MAKE GOOD CHEER
PRAISE ODIN FOR THE MERRY YEAR
WHEN FLESH IS CHEAP AND FEMALES DEAR...
VOLSTAGG?! THAT OVERSTUFFED OAF? OH, THE FATES MUST SURELY BE LAUGHING AT ME THIS DAY!
AHA! TO THEE FAIR AMORA! ART THOU NOT YET TOASTING THE HEALTH OF OUR LIEGE AND HIS ROYAL GUEST?
HMM... PERHAPS THE FATES MAY AID ME YET! FOR WHO WOULD SUSPECT THIS FAT FOOL?
I FEAR, NOBLE VOLSTAGG, THAT I'VE NOT RECEIVED AN INVITATION.
BUT PERHAPS THE KISS OF A VALIANT WARRIOR WOULD EASE MY DISAPPOINTMENT?
AHA, TREACHEROUS ONE!
ALL TOO WELL DO I KNOW YOUR TRICKS!
SIGH - AYE, I SEE THE MEANING 'TWEEN YOUR WORDS. AMLOD WOULD BE MOST CROSS WERE YOU TO KISS ANOTHER WOMAN...
AH, OAF! HRUMPH!
HILDEGUND MAY BE MY WIFE, BUT VOLSTAGG IS HIS OWN MASTER!
I SHALL KISS WHOMEVER...
...I...
...I...
NOW, LISTEN WELL, CORPULENT ONE! WITHIN BALDER'S CHAMBERS LIES A JEWEL WHICH SHINES LIKE THE SUN. FETCH IT HERE!
AS YOU WISH, MILADY.


FETCH A MERE GEM? HA! 'TWILL BE AS NOTHING! FOR AFTER ALL, THE VALIANT VOLSTAGG IS NOT ONLY THE FIERCEST WARRIOR IN ALL OF ASGARD...
...AM I NOT ALSO ITS GREATEST THIEF?
NONE WILL SUSPECT MY DARING APPROACH! FOR WHO COULD SCALE THESE MIGHTY WALLS BUT VOLSTAGG, WHO IS SWIFT AS A GAZELLE AND SURE-FOOTED AS AN--
--ELK?
KRAK
OOMPH!
KREKSSH
HRUMPH! AS I WAS SAYING...
...SURELY NONE WILL SUSPECT A CUNNING ATTACK FROM BELOW!

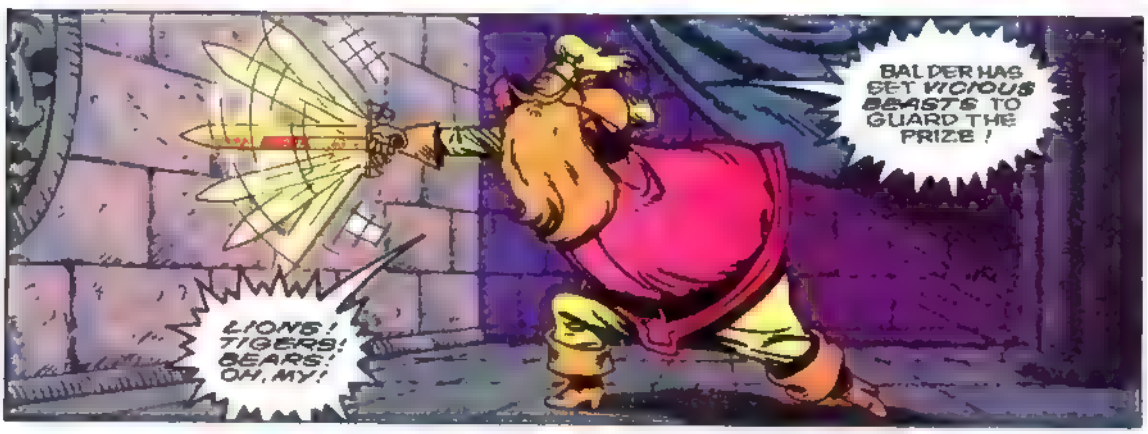
FORTUNATELY, I HAVE SOME PASSING ACQUAINTANCE WITH THESE WINE CELLARS A PITY I HAVE NOT THE TIME TO DELVE INTO THEIR WONDERS MORE FULLY!
BUT HOLD! WHAT IF BALDER HAS MOVED THE GEM AND HIDDEN IT HERE AMONG HIS FINEST VINTAGES?
IT IS MY DUTY TO INVESTIGATE!
GLUG GLUG
NAY, 'TIS NOT IN THIS KEG!
OR IN THIS ONE!
OR THIS ONE!
OR THIS ONE!
GLUG GLUG
WHAT? THE LAST OF THE LOT AND STILL NO GEM?
HA! CUNNING BALDER!
HE MUST HAVE REALIZED THAT A CLEVER THIEF WOULD SEE THROUGH SUCH SUBTERFUGE AND NEVER MOVED THE GEM AT ALL!
BUT IF BALDER BELIEVED THAT EVEN SO SUBTLE AN ARTIFICE WOULD DELAY ME, HE IS SADLY MISTAKEN!
FOR NAUGHT CAN STOP VOLSTAGG WHEN HE HAS A MISSION TO COMPLETE!

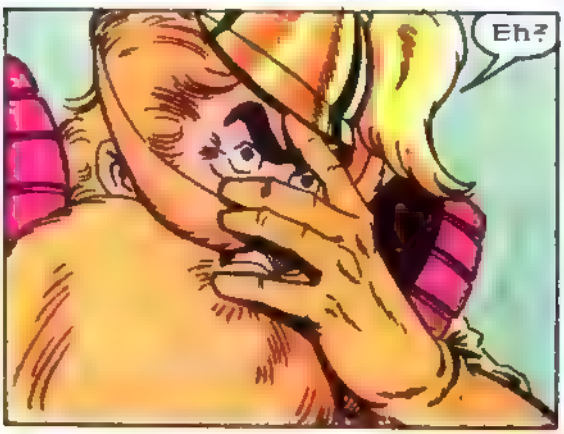

AH, THE FEAST PROCEEDS APACE, I SEE
'TIS FORTUNATE INDEED THAT VOLSTAGG'S WATCHWORDS BE STEALTH AND SILENCE!

EVER IT IS THE SAME -- THE GUARDSMAN TURNS TO HIS FELLOW "WAS THAT A MAN I GLIMPSED UPON THE STAIR?

"NAY, IT MUST HAVE BEEN A SHADOW, FOR NO MAN COULD MOVE SO QUICKLY AND SILENTLY!"
OOPS!
THUD

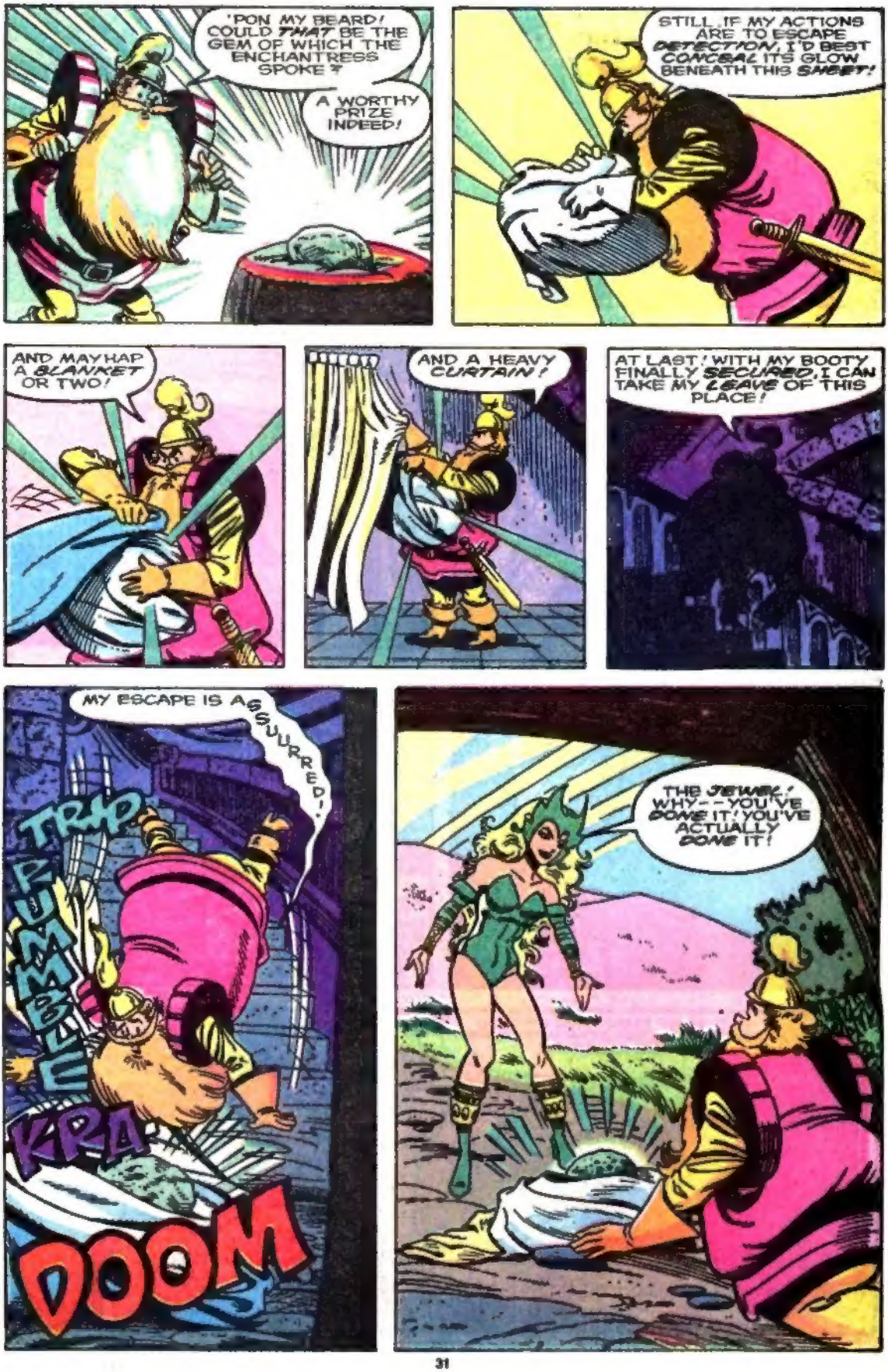
MRROW!


BALDER HAS SET VICIOUS BEASTS TO GUARD THE PRIZE!
LIONS! TIGERS! BEARS! OH, MY!


Eh?

IT SEEMS THE CREATURES HAVE FLED BEFORE ME! NOT FOR NOTHING IS VOLSTAGG CALLED THE SLAYER OF BEASTS!
ONE DOOR MORE, AND THE PRIZE IS MINE!

LOCKED!
YET, WHAT ARE LOCKS TO A THIEF OF MY CALIBER?
'TWILL TAKE BUT A MOMENT!
TIK TIK
TIK TEK TOK
TIK TEK TEK TAK TAK TAK TOK TEK TIK
OH, TO HELA WITH IT!
KROOM


'PON MY BEARD! COULD THAT BE THE GEM OF WHICH THE ENCHANTRESS SPOKE?
A WORTHY PRIZE INDEED!
STILL, IF MY ACTIONS ARE TO ESCAPE DETECTION, I'D BEST CONCEAL ITS GLOW BENEATH THIS SWEET!
AND MAYHAP A BLANKET OR TWO!
AND A HEAVY CURTAIN!
AT LAST! WITH MY BOOTY FINALLY SECURED, I CAN TAKE MY LEAVE OF THIS PLACE!
MY ESCAPE IS A SSUURRED!
TRIP
PUMBLE
KRA
DOOM
THE JEWEL! WHY--YOU'VE DONE IT! YOU'VE ACTUALLY DONE IT!

NEVER AGAIN SHALL THAT THRICE-ACCURSED BALDER--
OH...
Er...what... where?
UM-- I SUPPOSE YOU'RE ALL WONDERING HOW THIS JEWEL GOT HERE...
COME, ENCHANTRESS, SURELY YOU ARE NOT SURPRISED TO SEE US? 'TIS ENOUGH TO BRING A SMILE TO E'EN MY GRIM VISAGE!
VOLSTAGG'S WAKE LEFT A PATH WHICH A BLIND MAN COULD FOLLOW!
WHY...ER... HRUMPH! NATURALLY IT DID!
EVEN IN MY ENTRANCED STATE, THE INDOMITABLE WILL OF VOLSTAGG SHONE THROUGH, BLAZING A TRAIL SO THAT JUSTICE MIGHT PREVAIL!
AND NOW THAT THE GEM IS RECOVERED, FELLOW WARRIORS, TO THE FEAST!
AFTER ALL, SUCH VALOR DESERVES AN AMPLE REWARD!
YE END.

THE CALAMITY OF Volstagg
POISON IN HOT PURSUIT!
THING FIGHTS ALONE!